

April 13, 1982

Memo to File:

RE: Union Carbide Company
LaSal, Snowball, Beaver Shaft
Complex
ACT/037/026
San Juan County, Utah

On April 6, 1982, Tom Tetting and Susan Linner of the Division staff met with Ron DeHollander, Claude Thormalen, Reclamation Engineer, and Bruce Green, Mine Foreman, at the mine office on the LaSal minesite. Although there are 3 separate shafts involved in the mine complex, it is permitted as one mine, since the workings underground are contiguous. Union Carbide has recently updated the amount of surface acreage that has been disturbed, due to the conversion of the Beaver vent shaft to a haulage unit and growth at the original mine sites. Consequently, the bond is being revised. After some discussion on the above-mentioned topic, a tour was made of the 3 sites. There is a large amount of fine sandy waste rock at the Beaver Shaft site, which does not blend well with the surrounding vegetation, and can be seen from State Highway 46. The waste rock at the Snowball Mine seems to have more clay in it. We discussed setting up test plots beginning with chemical analyses of the waste rock at the various sites. Since all sites are active, the waste piles will continue to grow and be subject to vehicular traffic making it difficult to find an area to set up a plot. An ephemeral stream channel near the Snowball site has been impounded by road construction - culverting was discussed. A small topsoil stockpile, comprised of material scraped up before waste rock was laid down exists at the LaSal site. It was covered by invading vegetation on the 6th. However, when we drove by again on the 7th, there was small bulldozer pushing the pile to the south and destroying the vegetative cover, as well as disturbing and compacting the soil material. No reason for this was ascertained at the time.

Union Carbide was promised a letter from the Division, detailing comments on and proposed solutions for problem areas. This will include a discussion of test plots on waste rock disposal areas, of culverting the drainage near Snowball, and an attempt to determine what is happening to the topsoil stockpile.

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